

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198164

43

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED:D/HA:HHEILSNIS

APPROVED:D/HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN

EUR/SOV:LWILLEMS

EUR/CE:KKURZE

S/S-P:LTRMACFARLANE

----- 074664

R 101819Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198164

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ROME 12467 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW TEL
AVIV GENEVA GENEVA VIENNA LENINGRAD 02 AUG 76

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12467

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SREF, US, UR, IS

SUBJECT: SOVIET JEWS WHO CHANGE DIRECTION IN VIENNA

REF: STATE 188625

1. DUE, WE ASSUME, TO THE INCREASING DROP-OUT RATE IN VIENNA
THE NUMBER OF SOVIET JEWS ARRIVING ITALY HAS GROWN SHARPLY
DURING PAST YEAR. FOR INSTANCE, INS ROME RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY
800 CONDITIONAL ENTRY APPLICATIONS FROM SOVIET JEWS IN JUNE 1976
(OUT OF A TOTAL OF 1145 APPLICATIONS FROM ALL CATEGORIES OF
SOVIET REFUGEES) AS COMPATED TO 200 IN JUNE 1975 AND 250 IN
JUNE 1974. FIGURES INCLUDE SMALL NUMBER OF JEWS WHO FIRST WENT
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TO ISRAEL AND SUBSEQUENTLY CAME HERE TO APPLY FOR CONDITIONAL

ENTRY.

2. EMBASSY CONCERNED THAT INCREASE MAY CAUSE GOI TO REXAMINE ITS PRESENT VERY LIBERAL POLICY OF ADMITTING REFUGEES TO ITALY FOR PROCESSING HERE BY US AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS ACCEPTING THEM FOR RESETTLEMENT. WHILE MOST REFUGEES MEET ENTRY REQUIREMENTS OF THEIR PREFERRED COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT A SMALL PERCENTAGE ARE FOUND INELIGIBLE ON POLITICAL, CRIMINAL OR OTHER GROUNDS. AS THESE INELIGIBLES ARE GENERALLY UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO OBTAIN RESETTLEMENT ELSEWHERE THEY USUALLY REMAIN HERE IN VIOLATION OF TRANSIENT STATUS IN WHICH THEY WERE ADMITTED TO ITALY. THERE ARE NOW APPROXIMATELY 400 SOVIET JEWS HERE WHO ARE IN THIS SITUATION. WHILE GOI HAS TURNED A BLIND EYE TO THIS GROUP SO FAR, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT ITS ATTITUDE WILL CHANGE AS NUMBERS INCREASE, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HERE, AND THAT ENTRY OF REFUGEES WILL BE CURTAILED.

3. IN CIRCUMSTANCES EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT VOLAGS ASSISTING REFUGEES SEEKING RESETTLEMENT USA SHOULD ARRANGE HAVE SUBSTANTIAL PROPORTION OF DROP-OUTS TRAVEL ELSEWHERE THAN ITALY FOR PROCESSING. INS DISTRICT DIRECTOR ROME HAS SUGGESTED FRANKFURT WOULD BE MOST FEASIBLE FROM POINT OF VIEW OF ALL CONCERNED.VOLPE

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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NNN

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